

CUBA:

Nuñez Portuando, Emilio
Blanco y Sanchez
Garcia Amador y Rodrique, Francisco Victor
Ribas y Villaverde, Jose Miguel

State Dept. declassification instructions on file

EMILIO NUÑEZ PORTUONDO

NEWLY APPOINTED AMBASSADOR AND HEAD OF CUBA'S PERMANENT
DELEGATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Biographic Information Report No. 265

May 12, 1952

Document No. _____
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Date: 11/2/82 08/11/69

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NÚÑEZ Portuondo, Emilio (Dr.)

CUBA

Personal data: Born September 14, 1898, Philadelphia, Pa.; wife, Olga Fabrega; three children; father was General Emilio Núñez Portuondo, Cuban revolutionary hero; brother, Ricardo is a noted surgeon who was defeated in the presidential elections in 1948.

Education: Instituto de Segunda Enseñanza; Doctor of Civil Law, University of Habana.

Languages: Speaks English; reads both French and Italian fluently.

Political affiliation: Liberal Party.

Career:

1920-1922 Legal adviser, Municipality of Habana.
1924-1926 President Civil Service Commission.
1930 Legal adviser for Cuban railways.
1931-1933 President, Commission of Justice and Codes, House of Representatives.
1937 Minister to Panama.
1938 Member, delegation to Eighth Inter-American Conference of American States, Lima, Peru.
1938-1940 Minister to Peru.
1940 Member, delegation to Second Meeting of Foreign Ministers of the American Republics, Panama; Delegate to Constituent Assembly of Cuba.
1940-1944 Member, House of Representatives.
1944-1948 Senator, Las Villas Province.
1945 Member, delegation to the Inter-American Conference on Problems of War and Peace, Mexico City, February; (Postwar Economic and Social Problems) member, Committee II (World Organization), and Committee IV.
1949 Deputy Chief of delegation to GATT, Annecy, April; Minister to Brussels, March 4.
1950-1952 Ambassador to Panama; confirmed by the Cuban Senate on June 26, 1950.
1952 Ambassador and head of the permanent delegation to the United Nations, circa April.

Remarks:

Emilio Núñez Portuondo has been appointed to succeed the more distinguished and highly regarded Dr. Ernesto Dihigo as Ambassador and head of Cuba's permanent delegation to the United Nations. 1/, 2/

Now in his middle fifties, Núñez has a well established reputation of being an astute, crafty politician in every sense of the word. A deformity of the shoulders has earned for him the name "hunchback of Cuban politics". His present assignment under the new Batista government is a matter for speculation since as leader of

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CONFIDENTIAL-SECURITY INFORMATIONNUÑEZ Portuondo, Emilio (Dr.)CUBARemarks (Continued):

the Liberal Party in the Senate he verbally excoriated President Batista (1940-1944) at every opportunity both from the legislative rostrum and through the press. Further, he strongly urged closer ties with the United States and tighter curbs on Cuban Communists. 1/, 3/

Nuñez has also expressed himself freely on international matters. In 1944 he attacked the Farrell military government in Argentina and sought a rupture in diplomatic relations between that country and Cuba on the grounds that Argentina had failed to live up to its commitments against totalitarian governments. 4/ In that same year, as a result of his advocating an effort to restore the Spanish Republic by means of coordinated action in this hemisphere, he was named vice-president of a parliamentary committee formed for that purpose. 5/

In 1945 Nuñez returned to Habana openly critical of the Mexico City Conference on Problems of War and Peace. He maintained that the smaller nations had not been allowed to express their views and that it was evident that the "Big Three" at Yalta had divided the world among them, the United States being assigned all the Americas and a portion of the West Coast of Africa. According to statements attributed to Nuñez, the Mexico City and San Francisco Conferences were nothing more than window dressing. 6/ When the Cuban Congress ratified the United Nations Charter, Nuñez spoke against it stating that the United Nations Organization had already failed. 1/

In 1947, Nuñez was one of a group of Senators who made a motion urging the government to take all possible steps to assure that the Cuban delegation to the UN would take a firm and energetic stand in advocating and voting for the diplomatic isolation of Franco's Government and for the recognition of the Spanish Republican Government-in-Exile. 7/

Although he has criticized the United States, Nuñez is believed to be not unfriendly toward this country. He is quite affable, and despite his physical handicap, is said to be very fond of extramarital feminine companionship.

OLI:BI:FASomerford:sc

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May 8, 1952

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- 1/ An officer of the Department, May 6, 1952 (Restricted).
 - 2/ D-1712, Habana, April 16, 1952 (Unclassified).
 - 3/ Biographic Data Report, Habana, April 21, 1949 (Confidential).
 - 4/ El Panama America, Panama, July 29, 1944.
 - 5/ D-7881, Habana, September 13, 1944 (Confidential).
 - 6/ D-9033, Habana, March 23, 1945 (Confidential).
 - 7/ A-906, Habana, September 25, 1947 (Unclassified).

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~BLANCO y Sanchez, Carlos(Dr.)CUBA

Personal data: Born February 16, 1904, Guira de Melena, Province of Habana, Cuba; married.

Education: Primary studies, Guira de Melena; secondary education, Havana; degree of doctor of Public and Civil Law, University of Havana; special studies at the Institut des Hautes Etudes Internationales, Geneva and at the London School of Economics.

Languages: Speaks English fluently, French.

Honors: Commander of the Order of the Cuban Red Cross; Officer of the Order of Carlos Manuel de Céspedes; holder of medals commemorating the Coronation of His Majesty George the VIth, of the sixth Pan American Conference and of the Bolivarian Congress of Panama.

Publications: Among others, "A New System for the Study of International Law", published in the Cuban Law Review about 1940.

Career:

- 1925 Assistant Professor, Havana Law Academy.
- 1926 Third Secretary, Panama.
- 1926 Secretary of delegation to the Pan American Congress, Panama, June.
- 1927 Secretary Second Class, December 21.
- 1928 Second Secretary, Bern;
- 1928 In charge of the Permanent Delegation of Cuba at the League of Nations;
- 1928 Secretary of the delegation to the Sixth International Conference of American States, Havana.
- 1929 Secretary to the delegation to the Assembly of the League of Nations.
- 1930 Assigned to serve under the Under Secretary of State, November
- 1930 Secretary to the delegation to the Assembly of the League of Nations.
- 1932 Private Secretary to the Under Secretary of State.
- 1932 Acting Chief of the Office of International Commerce, Min. of S.
- 1932 In charge of the Political Office, Ministry of State.
- 1935 Promoted to Secretary First Class, March;
- 1935 Assigned to Washington, August.
- 1937 First Secretary, London.
- 1938 Secretary of delegation to the Assembly of the League of Nations;
- 1938 Cuban delegate to the XVI International Red Cross Conference;
- 1939 Special delegate of the Cuban Red Cross to the British Red Cross.
- 1939 Technical adviser of the delegation to the II Conference of Labor of the United States of America, November;
- 1939 Acting chief of the Division of Political Affairs, Ministry of State.

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- 1940 Secretary of delegation to the VIII American Scientific Congress, Washington, May;
 Assistant Secretary of the Second Consultative Meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Relations of America, Havana, July.
- 1940-1941 On commission in the Office of the Director of Political Affairs and in the Office of the Director of Citizenship and Migration, Ministry of State.
- 1941 Secretary of Commission II of the Conference on Intellectual Cooperation, Havana, November;
 Chief of the Division of Certificates on Naturalization of the Office of the Director of Citizenship and Migration of the Ministry of State.
- 1942 Director for Citizenship and Migration, Ministry of State, Oct.
- 1944-date Minister Counsellor, Washington.
- 1946 Member, Advisory Committee of the United Nations, League of Lawyers;
 Secretary of delegation to United Nations, General Assembly, second part of first session, New York, Advisor, Committee II Delegate, Third session, UN Economic and Social Council, New York.
- 1947 Member of Committee on Procedures and Organization;
 Delegate UN General Assembly, second session, New York;
 Delegate UN General Assembly, first special session on Palestine, New York;
 Member, Committee I (Political and Security);
 Member, Committee IV (Trusteeship);
 Member, Committee V (Administrative and Budgetary).
- 1948 Member, UN General Assembly Interim Committee;
 Delegate, UN General Assembly third session, Paris, September.
- 1949-date Alternate Representative to the United Nations with rank of Minister;
 Delegate to the UN General Assembly, fourth session, New York September and Alternate Representative on the Security Council.
- 1950 Delegate to the Conference on the Declaration of Death of Missing persons, Lake Success, New York, April 13-24.
 Delegate to the UN General Assembly, fifth session, New York, September;
 Acting Representative on the Security Council in place of Alberto Inocente Alvarez during the latter's absence.

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BLANCO y Sanchez, Carlos (Dr.) (continued)

CUBA

Remarks:

Blanco is a career officer who has been in the Cuban diplomatic service for more than 25 years. He is generally considered to be a very capable, impartial, agreeable and intelligent public servant, who is said to be an excellent example of a Cuban career diplomat. He has a keen interest in UN matters and is reported to take his work there very seriously. 1/

Blanco was one of Guillermo Bel's favorites during the time the latter was Ambassador in Washington. He has always given the impression of being very friendly toward the United States and while with the Ministry of State in Habana he worked closely with the U.S. Embassy. 1/, 2/

1/ Biographic Data Report, Habana, November 13, 1946, Confidential,
2/ Department of State Memorandum, November 27, 1946, Restricted.

OLI:BI:FASomerford:gp

June 18, 1950

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RIBAS y Villaverde, José MiguelCUBA

Ribas is a career officer, holds the rank of Consul General in the Cuban Foreign Service and is Secretary General of the permanent Cuban delegation before the United Nations. 1/, 2/

He was born October 8, 1905 in Jovellanos, Cuba, was partially educated in the United States and majored in commercial law. During the period 1937-1939 he was Vice Consul and later Consul at Chattanooga, Tennessee. From 1941 to 1943 he was assigned to the Ministry of State. In 1943 he was appointed Consul General at New Orleans in which position he served until some time in 1948. In 1949 Ribas was appointed Secretary General of the Cuban delegation to the UN General Assembly, fourth session, New York and more recently to the fifth session of the General Assembly in New York, September 1950. 1/, 2/, 3/

Ribas has attended several conferences including the Inter-American Conference for Intellectual Cooperation which was held in Habana in 1941. 1/

Although Ribas has had extensive service in the United States, there is actually no information on file in the Department with regard to his ability or attitude toward this country. It is known that he has a pleasing personality, is married to Oneida Leiseca and has three sons, Eduardo, Jorge and José. 1/, 4/, 5/

OLI:BI:FASomerford:sc

September 20, 1950

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- 1/ Anuario, Ministry of State, Cuba, 1943 (Unclassified).
 2/ Note from the Cuban Embassy, Washington, D. C., January 7, 1949 (Unclassified).
 3/ T-98, Habana, September 13, 1950 (Restricted).
 4/ Visa D-Unnumbered, Habana, September 1, 1949 (Unclassified).
 5/ A-994, Habana, August 2, 1949 (Restricted).

Distribution:

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GARCIA Amador y Rodriguez, Francisco Victor

CUBA

Personal data: Born March 23, 1917, Cuba; married Maria V. Moran.

Education: Lawyer.

Career:

---- Unknown prior to 1949.
 1949-1951 Second Alternate Representative with rank of Minister and Legal Adviser, Permanent Delegation to the UN.
 1949 Alternate delegate to the UN General Assembly, fourth session, New York, September;
 1950 Delegate to the UN General Assembly, fifth session, New York, September;
 Elected one of two Vice Presidents of the Conference on Declaration of Death of Missing Persons, Lake Success, April 13-24;
 Alternate delegate on the UN Commission for Conventional Armaments.
 Represented Cuba on the Inter-American Juridical Committee;
 Appointed to represent Cuba on the Inter-American Council of Jurists, May 11.

Remarks:

Garcia was replaced in his position at the United Nations on May 8, 1951 and is presumed to be currently attached to the Ministry of State. He has been described as a person who says one thing when he means another; as an obstinate prima donna, and when introducing a resolution, will never compromise. He was thought to be a poor choice as a committee officer on the basis of his showing in Committee VI. 1, 2/

Garcia received his legal training in the United States, the hard way, by working his way through school in a Hayes Bickford restaurant. 2/

OLI:BI:FASomerford:bc

June 18, 1951

1/ Biographic Data Memorandum, Habana, May 14, 1951. (Unclassified).
 2/ Department of State Memorandum, December 27, 1949. (Confidential).

Review of this document by CIA has determined that

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Declassify Date: 2025

CUBA

Garcia Amador, Francisco - Chief delegate to meeting I-A Council of Jurists, B. A., Apr. 53.

"Very personable, intelligent and a good lobbyist. Independent in his thinking and will act likewise, unless under specific orders from his Government. Served as reporter 1st Committee which was charges with political - Juridical items. Is a good man to have on our side."

Biog. notes obtained from State AR:
Mr. Jamison, June 6, 1953 Confidential